

[54] METHOD FOR PRESENTING
COMPRESSED ELECTRONIC DAY
CALENDAR INFORMATION IN AN
INTERACTIVE INFORMATION HANDLING
SYSTEM

[75] Inventors: Gerald C. Strope, Grapvine; Donna F. Murray, Euless, both of Tex.

[73] Assignee: International Business Machines Corporation, Armonk, N.Y.

[21] Appl. No.: 689,082

[22] Filed: Apr. 19, 1991

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 476,144, Feb. 6, 1990, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 188,927, May 2, 1988, abandoned.

[51] Int. Cl.⁵ G06F 3/37

[52] U.S. Cl. 395/161; 340/706;
40/107; 368/41

[58] Field of Search 364/518, 521; 340/706,
340/721, 747, 750; 368/41, 10; 40/107

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,451,895 5/1984 Sliwowski 364/521
4,550,386 10/1985 Hirose et al. 364/900
4,591,840 5/1986 Curtis et al. 340/706
4,626,836 12/1986 Curtis et al. 340/706
4,786,897 11/1988 Takanashi et al. 340/721
4,890,258 12/1989 Tsugei et al. 364/900

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Research Disclosure—"Surrogate Calendar Keeper

(Calendar Saver)" 2244 Research Disclosure Apr. 1987 No. 276, 27632.

Primary Examiner—Gary V. Harkcom

Assistant Examiner—Phu K. Nguyen

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Andrew J. Dillon

[57] ABSTRACT

A method of simultaneously displaying day calendar information on the screen of an interactive terminal of an information handling system along with data being processed by an application program. The day calendar data is displayed in a first view port in a compressed format which indicates busy and free time periods, while data from an application program is displayed in a second viewport. The information in the two simultaneously displayed viewports provides an improved interactive user interface in that the terminal user does not have to interrupt the task that he is working on to determine the availability of a certain time period. When the terminal is interconnected to other terminals by a network, the method provides an indication in the first viewport for the terminal user that is actively engaged in an application program, that a second user of a terminal on the network has calendared an event on the first user's calendar. The terminal user has the option of viewing the event immediately or at some other time that is more appropriate. The method also allows the terminal user to display day calendar data in compressed mode either for the next day or the previous day merely by selecting specific buttons displayed in the second viewport for this function.

10 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

